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REVIEWS OF BOOKS

The war of democracy. The allies' statement. (New York: Doubleday, Page and company, 1917. 441 p. \$2 00)

This volume is made up of a series of papers, letters, speeches, and interviews, twenty-two in all including the introduction, prepared or contributed by English, French, and Belgian statesmen, professors, and publicists. The purpose of the work is to provide a statement of the position taken by the allies with respect to certain phases of the present world conflict, such as the rights of neutrals, the value of small nations, ethical problems of the war, the freedom of the seas, the problems of Belgium, Serbia, and Alsace-Lorraine, and the like. It cannot be denied that contributions from such men as Mr. Asquith, Mr. Lloyd George, Lord Bryce, Lord Grey, Mr. Balfour, M. Paul Hymans, at one time minister of state in Belgium, Mr. H. A. L. Fisher and Mr. Gilbert Murray, come with a certain authority that commands immediate attention; at the same time, it is also true that statements coming from such men are likely to be of an *ex parte* character. It may be doubted whether the interviews included in the volume are of sufficient dignity to have a place in a work of this sort; an interview always looks best in a newspaper, and its form is usually determined by the interest of the moment. It is also a question whether the paper on the death of Edith Cavell and the statement regarding the Lusitania medal should have been admitted: they relate to incidents that have scarcely more than illustrative value. In a measure the same criticism applies to M. Barres' discussion of the "Soul of France." After all the questionable materials have been eliminated, however, there still remain a number of interesting papers, the importance of which will be realized at once and will not be limited to the present.

L. M. L.

Descriptive catalogue of the documents relating to the history of the United States in the papeles procedentes de Cuba deposited in the archivo general de Indias at Seville. By Roscoe R. Hill, professor of history, university of New Mexico. [Carnegie institution of Washington, publication, no. 234; papers of the department of historical research edited by J. Franklin Jameson] (Washington: Carnegie institution of Washington, 1917. 594 p. \$4.00)

Early in its career the department of historical research of the Carnegie institution of Washington announced that in order to carry out